

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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1. A method for allowing a communication recipient to automatically register a complaint against a communication initiator, the method comprising:

- (a) receiving a message from a communication initiator relating to a communication from the communication initiator; and
- (b) extracting a parameter from the message and determining whether the communication is from a communication initiator with whom communication is not desired; and
- (c) in response to determining that the communication is from a communication initiator with whom communication is not desired, generating a complaint registration message for automatically registering a complaint against the communication initiator.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the communication is an email message.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the communication is a short message service (SMS) message.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the communication is a voice telephone call.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein the communication is a facsimile message.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein the message is a call signaling message and the parameter is telephone number for the communication initiator.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein the message is a mobile call signaling message and the parameter is a mobile identification number for the communication initiator.
8. The method of claim 1 wherein the communication is an email message and the parameter is an email address.
9. The method of claim 1 wherein the message is an HTTP message and the parameter is a uniform resource locator (URL).
10. The method of claim 1 comprising sending the complaint registration message to a complaint registration database.
11. The method of claim 10 comprising, at the complaint registration database, generating a violation notification message in response to the complaint registration message.

12. The method of claim 11 wherein generating a violation notification message includes generating the violation notification message in response to determining that a complaint has previously been registered by the communication recipient against the communication initiator.

13. The method of claim 11 including sending the violation notification message to an enforcement agency.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein sending the violation notification message to an enforcement agency includes sending the violation notification message to a government agency.

15. The method of claim 1 comprising, in response to the receiving message from the communication initiator, notifying the communication initiator that no further communication with the communication recipient is to be attempted.

16. The method of claim 15 including notifying the communication initiator that the complaint registration message is being sent to a complaint registration database.

17. The method of claim 1 wherein receiving a message from a communication initiator includes receiving a session initiation protocol (SIP) message at an SIP phone.

18. The method of claim 17 wherein the SIP message is an Invite message.

5 19. The method of claim 18 wherein extracting a parameter from the message includes extracting a parameter from the From field of the Invite message for identifying the communication initiator.

10 20. A method for automatically generating a complaint registration message in response to receiving a message relating to a communication from a communication initiator with whom communication is not desired, the method comprising:
at a communication recipient terminal:

15 (a) receiving a message from a communication initiator relating to a communication from the initiator;
(b) determining, based on a parameter in the message, whether the communication initiator has previously been notified not to initiate communications to the communication recipient; and
20 (c) in response to determining that the communication initiator has been previously notified, automatically generating, based on the message from the initiator, a complaint registration message identifying the communication initiator.

25 21. The method of claim 20 comprising forwarding the complaint registration message to a complaint registration database.

22. The method of claim 21 comprising, at the complaint registration database, determining whether complaints have been previously registered against the initiator, and in response to determining that complaints have been previously registered, generating a violation message and forwarding the violation message to an enforcement authority.

23. The method of claim 20 wherein receiving a message at a communication recipient terminal includes receiving a session initiation protocol (SIP) message at a SIP phone.

24. The method of claim 23 wherein generating the complaint registration message comprises generating the complaint registration message at the SIP phone.

25. The method of claim 23 wherein the SIP message is an Invite message and the parameter is a calling party identifier in a From field of the Invite message.

26. A system for enabling a called party to register a complaint against a calling party, the system comprising:

- (a) a called party communication terminal adapted to receive call signaling messages from calling parties and to generate a complaint registration message in response to determining that

one of the call signaling messages relates to a call from a calling party with whom communication is not desired; and

- (b) a complaint registration database application operatively associated with the communication terminal for receiving and processing the complaint registration message.

27. The system of claim 26 wherein the called party communication terminal is a session initiation protocol (SIP)-capable phone.

28. The system of claim 26 wherein the called party communication terminal is a personal computer.

29. The system of claim 26 wherein the complaint registration message is based on information contained in a calling party call setup signaling message.

30. The system of claim 26 wherein the complaint registration message is a SIP message.

31. The system of claim 26 wherein the complaint registration database application is adapted to generate a violation notification message.

32. The system of claim 31 wherein the complaint registration database application is adapted to send the violation notification message to a third party.

33. The system of claim 32 wherein the third party is a government agency.

5 34. The system of claim 26 wherein the called party communication terminal adapted to generate a complaint registration message in response to a manual or user initiated trigger.

10 35. The system of claim 26 wherein the called party communication terminal includes a call blocking database that is adapted to store identification information related to a calling party that has been notified that communication with the called party is not desired.

15 36. The system of claim 35 wherein the called party communication terminal adapted to generate the complaint registration message automatically in response to determining that an entry exists for the calling party in the call blocking database.

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